

VZCZCXYZ0005
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHSK #0620/01 1991244
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 181244Z JUL 07
FM AMEMBASSY MINSK
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6284
INFO RUCNMEU/EU INTEREST COLLECTIVE
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 1625
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MINSK 000620

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/18/2017

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [BO](#)

SUBJECT: LUKASHENKO REMOVES BELARUSIAN KGB CHIEF

REF: A. MINSK 613

[1B](#). MINSK 614

[1C](#). MINSK 465

Classified By: Ambassador Karen Stewart for reason 1.4 (d)

Summary

[1](#)1. (C) As predicted, President Lukashenko replaced Belarusian KGB (BKGB) Chief Sukharenko with Major General Zhadobin, the former head of the Zhadobin, a close associate of Lukashenko and his son Viktor, has already been tasked with making staff changes within the BKGB and State Secur

Do Not Let The Door Hit You On The Way Out

[1](#)2. (U) The presidential press department announced on July 17 that President Aleksandr Lukashenko relieved Belarusian KGB (BKGB) Chief Stepan

Meet The New Boss, Same As The Old Boss

[1](#)3. (U) Zhadobin, born in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine in 1954, began his career in 1972 after joining the USSR Armed Forces. He graduated from the

[1](#)4. (U) According to human rights NGO Charter97, Zhadobin - just like Sukharenko before him -- used to provide "evidence" to support Lukashenk

Sukharenko's Removal Serves Whose Interests?

[1](#)5. (U) Human rights lawyer and former investigator Oleg xxxxxxxxxxxx on July 17 opined to reporters that the BKGB Chief's removal resulted fr

[1](#)6. (C) In a July 16 meeting, xxxxxxxxxxxx told Poloff that should Sukharenko be removed, Viktor Lukashenko would fill the position with a bu close associates of Lukashenko.

[1](#)7. (U) According to United Civic Party leader Anatoliy Lebedko's July 17 interview with reporters, Sukharenko's removal was the result of a bu Statkevich, the BKGB had long ceased to be an "intellectual" organization as it had been in the USSR. Its first duty was to show absolute loyalty to the president, and professionalism and beliefs came in

Newspaper Blames Power Shuffle on Scuffle in Mogilyov

[1](#)8. (C) Journalists from the Belarusian independent website "Your Country's Tomorrow" on July 17 attributed Sukharenko's removal to the July 12 and one Security Council member for the attack. The website claims the attack was planned with the intention to "compromise" Naumov. The Prosecutor General's Office is conducting the investigation.

Comment

[1](#)9. (C) Sukharenko's removal comes as no surprise, as we had long noticed that the former BKGB chief had fallen out of favor with Lukashenko. to report on this development, particularly on Sukharenko's future and his replacements.

Stewart